

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Ide et al.  
Serial No.: Unknown  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith  
Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Examiner: Unknown  
Title: **GEAR CASE ASSEMBLY WITH PRESSURE-COMPENSATING  
FUNCTION FOR MARINE PROPULSION MACHINE**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT-A**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the subject new patent application (filed concurrently herewith), please amend the specification, claims and abstract of the application as discussed herein. This amendment is being submitted under the Revised Amendment Format.